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Date: February 6, 2004

Christine M. Spivey

PATENT
36856.927

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|--|-------------------------|
| Applicant: Takahiro YAMAMOTO et al. | Art Unit: 1732 |
| Serial No.: 09/539,691 | |
| Filed: March 31, 2000 | Examiner: S. Staicovici |
| Title: METHOD FOR MACHINING CERAMIC GREEN SHEET | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop DD
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith are copies of seven (7) references cited in the two (2) Examination Reports issued in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application. For the Examiner's convenience, we have enclosed an English translation of the two (2) Japanese Examination Reports and a completed Form PTO-1449. The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Applicants certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the date of this

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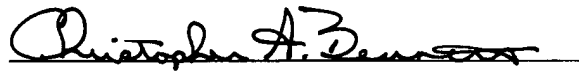
statement, and that this is the first citation of these prior art references by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application.

Applicants petition the Commissioner to consider this information disclosure statement pursuant to C.F.R. § 1.197(d). Enclosed is a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee. If any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 6, 2004

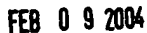
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher A. Bennett", is written over a horizontal line.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
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Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/539,691 |
| Filing Date | March 31, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Takahiro YAMAMOTO |
| Art Unit | 1732 |
| Examiner Name | S. Staicovici |
| Attorney Docket Number | 36856.927 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.